

**THE USE OF INTRATUMORAL CHEMOTHERAPY IN AN INTEGUMENTARY
SQUAMOUS CELL CARCINOMA IN A COCKATIEL (*NYMPHICUS HOLLANDICUS*)**

**G. Antonissen*, DVM, I. Van de Maele, DVM, Dipl. ECVIM-CA, R. Ducatelle, DVM,
PhD, Dipl. ECVP, L. De Cooman, DVM, A. Garmyn, DVM, PhD, T. Hellebuyck, DVM,
PhD, S. Croubels, Pharm, PhD, A. Martel, DVM, PhD, Dipl. ECZM (Wildlife population
health)**

***Faculty of Veterinary Medicine,
Ghent University, Belgium***

ABSTRACT

An 8-year-old female cockatiel (*Nymphicus hollandicus*) was presented with anorexia, lethargy, a mass beneath the wing and discoloration of the feathers. On physical exam the bird had an ulcerative nodular lesion of approximately 4 cm³ ventromedial on the wing. Lateral and ventrodorsal radiographs revealed hepatomegaly but no signs of metastasis. After controlling the infection (enrofloxacin, 20 mg/kg BW, bid for 7 days), surgical excision of the tumor was performed. After histopathological evaluation and bacterial culture, the lesion was typed as an integumentary squamous cell carcinoma with bacterial contamination (*Corynebacterium* sp). Four weeks postoperative the tumor had recurred (volume 0.7 cm³). The bird was treated with intratumoral carboplatin (1.5 mg/cm³) administration once a week. Because of further tumor progression after the second administration of carboplatin, resection of the mass was performed before the next infiltration. However, the bird died during anesthesia. Despite increase in tumor size, histopathological and immunohistochemical evaluation showed degeneration of the tumor with intercellular edema and vacuolization of the tumor cells, presumably resulting from carboplatin administration. Intratumoral administration of carboplatin should be considered as a treatment option in birds with integumentary squamous cell carcinoma.

AUTHOR ADDRESS:

G. Antonissen, DVM
Department of Pathology, Bacteriology and Poultry Diseases and
Department of Pharmacology, Toxicology and Biochemistry
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine
Ghent University,
Salisburylaan 133
9820 Merelbeke
Belgium
e-mail: Gunther.Antonissen@UGent.be